

Message Text

SECRET

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14

ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 PM-07 NSC-10 SPC-03 SS-20 RSC-01

CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 DODE-00 EB-11 COME-00 L-03

TRSE-00 DRC-01 /104 W

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R 280845Z OCT 73

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5303

INFO AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY LONDON

CHUSMTM DHAHRAN

S E C R E T JIDDA 4725

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SA, XF

SUBJ: SULTAN RECEIVES RAYTHEON VP

REF: JIDDA 4685 (NOTAL)

SUMMARY: RAYTHEON VP PHELAN RECEIVED CORDIALLY BY
MODA PRINCE SULTAN WHO EMPHASIZED SAUDI INTEREST IN

COMPLETE COOPERATION OF RAYTHEON IN BRINGING HAWK
BATTERIES TO INCREASED STATE OF READINESS. RAYTHEON
RECONFIRMED NO RPT NO BATTERIES FROM SAG EVER WERE
MOVED TO SYRIA OR HAVE HAD ANY OTHER THAN DEFENSIVE
ROLE IN NORTHERN SAUDI BASE AT TABUK. RAYTHEON
CONTINUING PREPARE FOR SUBMISSION ON IMPROVED
HAWK PROPOSAL, NOW TARGETED HOPEFULLY FOR
SIGNATURE BY SAUDIS BEFORE JAN 1, 1974 IF DOD
AUDIT FINISHED AS PLANNED. END SUMMARY.

1. RAYTHEON SAUDI MANAGER IN COUNTRY NORMAN GEIS
INFORMED AMBASSADOR OCTOBER 27 OF SUBSTANCE TALKS

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BETWEEN VP PHELAN AND MODA PRINCE SULTAN HELD ON

WEDNESDAY, OCT 24 IN RIYADH. FOLLOWING ADVICE OF EMBASSY (REFTEL PHELAN HAD REDRAFT) LETTER FROM RAYTEHON INTO GENERAL ONE REAFFIRMING INTENT OF COMPANY TO COOPERATE FULLY WITH SAG IN ENHANCING EFFECTIVENESS OF CURRENT HAWK BATTERIES AND THEIR STATE OF READINESS FOR DEFENDING THE KINGDOM. LETTER ALSO REFERRED TO NEED FOR EARLY DECISION ON IMPLEMENTING IMPROVED HAWK PROGRAM. HE AVOIDED ALL MENTION OF CURRENT POLITICAL AND MILITARY PROBLEM IN AREA.

2. SULTAN WAS MOST CORDIAL AS IN THE PAST TO PHELAN PERSONALLY AND NO DIFFICULT MATTERS OF SUBSTANCE RELATED TO PRESENT MIDDLE EAST CONFLICT CAME UP DURING THE CONVERSATION. EMPHASIS WAS ON NEED FOR EXPEDITING SPARES AND OTHER MATTERS CONNECTED WITH TECHNICAL COMBAT PROPAREDNESS OF PRESENT HAWK SYSTEM.

3. GEIS SAID THAT RAYTEHON WAS PROCEEDING ON A REVAMPED IMPROVED HAWK PROPOSAL, MEETING MOST BUT NOT ALL OF THE SAG DEMANDS, AND THIS WOULD BE READY FOR SUBMISSION SHORTLY.

4. GEIS ALSO REFERRED TO RECURRING STORIES AND

CHARGES THAT HE SAID ORIGINATED WITH ISRAEL EMBASSY IN WASHINGTON THAT RAYTEHON PERSONNEL WERE AIDING SAUDIS TO MAN RESITED HAWK BATTERIES IN SYRIA ITSELF, NEAR ALEPPO. HE REASSURED EMBASSY ON THIS POINT DENYING THAT ANY BATTERIES HAD LEFT THE KINGDOM AND NOTING THAT NO RAYTEHON PERSONNEL HAD EVEN BEEN ASKED TO DO ANY ACTIVITY THAT MIGHT LEAD TO SUCH AN INVOLVEMENT B SAUDI FORCES. HE HAD AGAIN BRIEFED USMTM REPRESENTATIVE ON THIS POINT AND HOPEFULLY THE MESSAGE WOULD STILL THE RUMORS.
AKINS

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NNN

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